



U.S. Department of Justice

Ronald C. Machen Jr.
*United States Attorney for the
District of Columbia*

*Judiciary Center
555 Fourth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530*

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, November 8, 2010

For Information Contact:

Public Affairs

(202) 514-6933

http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/dc/Press_Releases/index.html

District Man Sentenced to More Than 13 Years in Prison For String of Gun Offenses on Southern Avenue SE

WASHINGTON - Deangelo Covington, 18, has been sentenced to more than 13 years in prison for a series of gun-related crimes, including two shootings, that took place last spring, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. announced.

Covington, of Washington, D.C., earlier pled guilty to charges including assault with intent to kill, possession of a firearm during the commission of a crime in violence, assault with a dangerous weapon, and other offenses. He was sentenced November 1, 2010 in the Superior Court for the District of Columbia by the Honorable Judge Ann O'Regan Keary.

According to the government's evidence, the first incident took place about 7:30 p.m. on April 30, 2010. Covington, armed with a handgun, confronted the victim in the 800 block of Southern Avenue SE about a dispute involving Covington and one of the victim's friends. The victim said words to the effect of, "What, you going to kill me in front of all these people?" Covington responded, "Yes" and fired one shot at the victim's head at close range. The victim, who had raised his arm to cover his face, was shot in the arm. Covington then fled.

Two more victims encountered Covington in an unrelated incident that took place on May 24, 2010, around 7:30 p.m., also in the 800 block of Southern Avenue SE. They were walking across a playground when they observed Covington playing football with a group of young men. One asked Covington and his associates if they could stop playing for one moment while he and his pregnant girlfriend walked across the park. Covington had one hand in his pocket as if he was holding a handgun and stated words to the effect of, "What did you say? I'll kill you right now." He then pulled out a small handgun and pointed it at the male victim's face. No one was hurt.

The next day, May 25, 2010, around 10 p.m., the stepfather of the male victim from the May 24th incident was walking to an apartment in the 800 block of Southern Avenue when he saw Covington with another individual. The stepfather kept walking and stood on a front porch. Covington and the unknown accomplice both pulled out handguns and shot at the victim from

about 10 to 15 feet away. The victim was able to escape, unharmed. Three .357 caliber Sig shell casings were found on the scene of the shooting.

Covington was arrested on May 26, 2010. That day, around 3 p.m., Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) officers were on patrol near the intersection of 4th and Atlantic Streets SE when they observed a car that had been reported stolen during an armed carjacking in Prince George's County earlier that day. Officers attempted to stop the car, which was carrying a man and a woman. Officers pursuing the vehicle saw the man, later identified as Covington, toss a purse out of the front passenger side window. Police continued to follow the vehicle until it collided with a street sign. Covington attempted to run away, but he was ultimately apprehended and placed under arrest.

An officer responded to the area where Covington had tossed the purse out the window and found a black purse containing a .357 Sig Sauer handgun. The handgun was loaded with three rounds of .357 Sig ammunition in the magazine and one round in the chamber. A firearm examiner concluded that the shell casings recovered in the May 25th shooting were fired from the .357 Sig Sauer handgun that the Defendant threw out the vehicle window.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen expressed his appreciation to the Metropolitan Police Department, and particularly praised the work of Seventh District Detectives Timothy Francis, Sean Moore, and Dan Lewis. U.S. Attorney Machen also commended Assistant U.S. Attorney B. Michael Ortwein III who investigated the case.

10-307

###